



“Preserving Family Farm History”

March 3, 2022

Dear Sirs:

This letter is in support of Bill 5283 that will fix funding on Agriscience in the years to come. If there is anything that the last few years have proven to us is the need to know where our food source is coming from with the need for farmers and all agricultural related fields that the Agricultural Science Technology Education programs offered in our State lays the foundation for.

I have worked with these students for 10 years and being a former high school teacher, I can attest that this program generates the best students that our State can be proud of. Through the variety of courses it offers, it also instills in the students skills not offered in other programs such as public speaking, responsibility to commitments, how to run for a public office and so much more. For an example, the students who choose to work here on the farm with me always are in contact with me to keep me up to date on their work times and do whatever duties I assign them without complaints. I have to say, this program produces the best students for the future of our State and our country.

Bill #5283 which will fix many of the Agriscience funding issues that we have been dealing with for the past 30 years.

It has taken countless hours and years to get to this point, but basically this bill will...

1. Add a hold harmless for ag centers, so we will be guaranteed sufficient funding in the future.
2. It eliminates the sending town tuition requirement which will remove the financial burden to our sending towns allowing us to inevitably increase enrollment.
3. It will finally achieve funding equality between Agriscience and other choice school options in the state.

I hope you will support this bill and secure the future of a crucial educational opportunity for our students.

Sincerely,

Nancy Strong
Executive Director

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